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# DAILY CONVERSATIONS IN CHINESE MEDIA

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## SOCIAL MEDIA CHATTER IN CHINA

- **'Dialect detective' helps find missing people:** [Tan Yinghuan](#), a 42-year-old woman from Dezhou, Shandong Province, has gained fame online for her efforts to connect individuals with their lost relatives through her command over several local dialects of Chinese. Her video recently went viral on social media which received praise from many netizens. In nine years, Tan Yinghuan, who has self-learnt more than ten dialects, has assisted 300 individuals including kidnapping victims, elderly people suffering from Alzheimer's disease, and others who were estranged from blood relatives. Tan works part-time and makes less than \$150 per month, out of which she spends a major chunk making calls to the respective authorities and families of the estranged ones. Her language abilities have proven to be critical to discover people's hometowns, resulting in fruitful reunions. For instance, she assisted a 55-year-old wanderer in 2018 to reunite with her family in northeast China, and in 2019, she assisted a Shandong lady to reconnect with her brother after 15 years of separation.
- **Chinese firm shower bonuses on staff:** [Henan Mine](#), a crane manufacturing company with more than 5,100 employees, gained attention when a video of the company's annual celebration went viral and showed massive piles of cash stacked two meters high on the stage before being distributed to the employees. As per the video, cash was packaged into 100,000 Yuan bricks. In the video, a group of men was seen carrying huge amount of cash in their arms. In 2022, the business generated sales revenues of 9.16 billion

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yuan (\$1.36 billion), a 23% increase over the previous year. Over the past three years, there have been no layoffs at the firm despite China's strict COVID-19 regulations and also the average employee salary at the company has climbed by 30% annually. Many have expressed envy for the employees of this company while others have dismissed this as a publicity stunt.

## NEWS IN CHINA

- The "ZhongShan DaXue JiDi," the first polar icebreaker built by China's Sun Yat-Sen University, has successfully completed the sea trial. After travelling across the South China Sea, East China Sea, and Yellow Sea, the 78.95-meter ship with a 2.2-meter icebreaking capability reached Liaodong Bay in the Bohai sea. It has a displacement capacity of 5852 tonnes and draft of 8.16 meters. It was initially donated by Chinese businessmen Zhang Xinyu and Liang Hong to the university in 2022. With the investment of 100 million Yuan, the icebreaker is equipped with cutting-edge low temperature navigation technology. The icebreaker will now join China's polar ice-breaking research fleet after Xuelong and Xuelong-2, and support China's polar research operations.
  - The rules governing the process of martyrs' burial have been updated by the Chinese government. The adjustments are intended to address problems including the absence of uniform practices and the challenges associated with the commemoration of soldiers who have gone missing. In addition to addressing policy integration with regard to the burial of wartime martyrs as well as the repatriation of martyrs from abroad, the new laws establish comprehensive instructions and processes for the burial of martyrs. Significant changes include moving the responsible department from civil affairs to veterans' work, enhancing welcoming and burial rituals, stepping up the search for the remains, and opening up new avenues for missing or martyrs in other countries.
  - On Tuesday, President Xi Jinping responded to the letters from students at the Hungarian-Chinese Bilingual School in Hungary, expressing his appreciation for their efforts to study Chinese and promote friendship between China and Hungary. Xi Jinping also urged the students to continue their studies in Chinese language and to visit the nation to learn more about its culture. The school, started in 2004, teaches both Chinese and Hungarian and acts as a model for cultural cooperation between the two countries. Hungary was one of the first countries to recognize the People's Republic of China in 1949 and is also an important partner for China-Central and Eastern Europe Cooperation (CEE).
  - Archaeologists have unearthed 21 Western Han Dynasty (202 BC-AD 25) tombs at Changsha, Hunan province. Due to their proximity and contemporariness, they are considered to be subordinate tombs of a royal mausoleum. The graves are earth pits that are of two types: with or without corridors. Some were discovered next to each other, suggesting that there were combined burials for couples or family members. A remarkable two-tiered construction tomb was also unearthed in Hunan Province. In the graves, 234 burial objects, predominantly pottery artefacts,
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were discovered. The discoveries will give important information on Changsha's burial system during the Western Han Dynasty.

- New vibration-resistance material that is robust and lightweight, has been developed by Researchers from the Chinese Academy of Sciences, University of Science and Technology of China, University of California Berkeley, and Shanghai Tech University. The material, known as cermet bio-mimetic (Bio-mimetic means something that is modeled after, or inspired from nature), was created by fusing metal and ceramic components and was intended to resemble the composition of organic things like shells and bones. The new substance is vibration-absorbing in addition to being far stronger than many existing substances. It is anticipated that it would be utilized for the production of precision equipment and in sectors like aerospace.

## INDIA WATCH

- The Arctic region is of tremendous strategic significance since it is predicted to be ice-free for most period of the year by 2050, enticing both India and China to utilize its abundant natural resources. The region has become more accessible for resource exploration and shipping as a result of global warming, prompting both nations to see it as an opportunity for economic expansion and geopolitical gains. Considering China's opportunity to avoid Malacca dilemma through enhanced use of Arctic route for trade, it is now more focused on and has invested in infrastructure such as icebreakers and

research station on individual level, whilst India's efforts are still limited to regional cooperation and scientific research on climate change. China has sent 12 expeditions to the Arctic till now, and both India and China hold observer status in the Arctic Council. Deeper research in Arctic region related to climate change can also prove useful for both countries as they are also battling for gaining influence in the 'third pole,' which is the Himalayas and its surrounding area, which is essential for both nations owing to its critical role in regional water security, energy, and resources. In the wake of climate change, all three poles hold similar significance for both China and India, as both nations have extensive coastlines, the rising sea level, and changes in other environmental factors are common concerns for both countries and present an opportunity for collaboration.